

## Program Highlights 2007

### EducationUSA in the Press

Several articles and interviews with Istanbul Director and Senior Adviser, Mr. Sureyya Ersoy were published in Turkey's most reputable newspapers and magazines, including The Turkish Daily News, Sabah, Vatan, Dünya magazine, as well as the Turkish Student magazine. In addition, the most popular educational websites [www.mezun.com](http://www.mezun.com) and [www.bilimevi.com](http://www.bilimevi.com), as well as the Turkish national television, invited advisers to talk about US study opportunities and scholarship programs such as Fulbright.

### Technology in Advising: EducationUSA Webinar

Ankara office adviser Lara Meltem Bilikmen gave a presentation in a webinar conducted by the US Commercial Service in Turkey. About 30 US university representatives participated in the webinar and asked questions related to Turkish-US student exchange and mobility trends, the Turkish Fulbright program and other scholarships opportunities, cooperation with the EducationUSA network, and recruitment strategies for getting more Turkish students. Contact EducationUSA for the presentations.

### Outreach to the Underserved: "Fulbright Corners"

The Turkish Fulbright Commission established Fulbright Corners at 10 provincial universities. The Corners include a total of 63 publications, including reference books about the US higher education system and study opportunities. The aim of this unique outreach project is to serve diverse audiences, including students with underprivileged backgrounds.



### Key EducationUSA Partners

- ▶ US Embassy in Ankara, Public Affairs and Commercial Section
- ▶ US Consulate in Istanbul
- ▶ Turkish educational institutions
- ▶ Ministry of Education
- ▶ Council of Higher Education

Country Statistics	2006	2007
Number of students in the US:	12,474	11,622
Total number of center inquiries (including webhits):	30,000	32,000

# Turkey

## Advising Center Network

The EducationUSA centers in Ankara and Istanbul are affiliated with the Fulbright Commission and the [Turkish American Association](http://www.taa-ankara.org.tr). The advisers offer group sessions and individual counseling on all topics pertaining to education in the US, as well as pre-departure orientations. The advisers participate in almost all education fairs in the country and give presentations during these events on all aspects of US study opportunities. EducationUSA centers have developed a wide range of information materials not only in English but also in Turkish, including a resource book written by Sureyya Ersoy, Director of the Fulbright Istanbul office.

## Recent Trends: US Study ▼ -1.0%

- ▶ Despite the current political situation and the increasing popularity of European schools, the US remains the top destination of choice for Turkish students.
- ▶ New scholarships: EducationUSA's Opportunity Initiative provides grants to cover up-front costs of US higher education for students of potential and modest means.
- ▶ US and Turkish universities are forming more and more institutional partnerships.
- ▶ Students are increasingly interested in community college programs, which is partly due to the fact that Turkey was selected as one of the 6 pilot countries for the Community College Initiative program.
- ▶ Online advising and the effective use of the Internet have become crucially important.
- ▶ Fields of study most inquired: business administration, economics, engineering, ESL, social sciences, and arts.
- ▶ Common sports for student-athletes: soccer, basketball, swimming, tennis, volleyball.

## Resource Links

Ministry of National Education: [www.meb.gov.tr/english/indexeng.htm](http://www.meb.gov.tr/english/indexeng.htm)

Turkish Fulbright Commission: [www.fulbright.org.tr](http://www.fulbright.org.tr)

EducationUSA Center at the Turkish American Association:

[www.taa-ankara.org.tr/educationusa.php](http://www.taa-ankara.org.tr/educationusa.php)

## Education System Overview

	Secondary Education	Higher Education (Bachelor's Degree)
Language of instruction:	Turkish	Turkish and English
Years of study required:	12 years	4 years
Grading system & US equivalent:	5 point grading scale	4 point grading scale
Scholarship for US studies:		EducationUSA Opportunity Initiative; The Fulbright Commission; the Turkish Education Foundation (TEV), the Council of Higher Education (YOK), and the Ministry of National Education (MEB).

## Partnering with EducationUSA Turkey



EducationUSA advisers offer free services for US school representatives such as organizing meetings and group sessions with interested students and Turkish higher education authorities. In 2008/09, advisers will administer webinars so that US university representatives can reach Turkish students in different parts of Turkey without leaving their offices, and without the students having to travel to Ankara or Istanbul.

## Country Contacts

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The Turkish Fulbright Commission

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